




Craven Combined Sanitary Districts.

COMPRISING

- I. Silsden Urban.**
 - II. Skipton Urban.**
 - III. Sedbergh Rural.**
 - IV. Settle Rural.**
 - V. Skipton Rural.**
- 

REPORT For 1945.

By

**WILLIAM SCATTERTY, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.**

Prepared in Accordance with Instructions from the Ministry of Health.

BY ORDER OF THE M.O.H. JOINT COMMITTEE

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CRAVEN COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT

Sixty-sixth Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the District Councils.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Combined District for the year ending 31st December, 1945.

The Report is drawn up on the lines suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular 2773 and, in accordance with the economy cuts recommended by both Central Authority and District Councils, condensation and cross-reference to previous reports are practised as much as possible. No mention is made of populations, nor of war-time industries and activities such as extension of waterworks, housing, Sewerage, etc., are referred to without detail. Instead of a separate report for each Authority, this combined report tries to convey a general idea of the state of the public health, and the administrative work done, and at the same time comply with the demand for economy of both printing and paper. That the routine work of the Department in each and all of the Combined Districts has gone on as in pre-war days may be inferred from the tabulated statements given in the Report.

A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Craven Combined District has an area of approximately 358,000 acres, or fully one-fifth of the West Riding administrative county. It has a population of approximately 60,000, and consists of two Urban and three Rural Districts.

In the industrial areas trade and employment continued good, especially in engineering and re-armament work ; textiles have in fact been short of labour.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth-rate : 14·6.

Compared with 12·4, 13·3, 14·2, 14·6 and 16·3 in the previous five years.

Death-rate : 13·4.

Compared with 14·1, 12·6, 12·9, 12·6 and 13·1 in the previous five years.

Infant Mortality : 34 per 1,000 children born.

Compared with 51, 46, 45, 37 and 33 in the previous five years, and with 46 for England and Wales.

A comparison of the Constituent Authorities may be seen in the following table :

District.	Population.	Births.	Birth-rate.	Deaths.	Death rate.	Infant Mortality.
Sedbergh Rural ...	3,888	45	10·6	42	10·8	44
Settle Rural ...	13,300	200	15·0	179	13·4	35
Skipton Rural ...	21,760	327	15·0	302	13·8	36
Silsden Urban ...	5,099	80	15·6	84	16·4	50
Skipton Urban ...	13,010	187	14·2	158	12·1	21
Total Rural ...	38,948	572	14·6	523	13·4	36
„ Urban ...	18,109	267	14·7	242	13·3	30
Total Craven ...	57,057	839	14·7	765	13·4	34

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.

1940	APPROXIMATE ESTIMATE.	736	12·4	851	14·4	51
1941		799	13·3	761	12·5	46
1942		852	14·2	773	12·9	45
1943		861	14·6	742	12·6	37
1944		954	16·3	770	13·1	33

Thus in spite of war conditions, possibly because of war restrictions, Craven's Vital statistics cannot be considered unsatisfactory.

The 1945 Birth-rate was only once exceeded during war years, while the Death-rate is an average of the previous five years. The Infant Mortality has steadily decreased during the same period, and at 34 per 1,000 births compares most favourably with 46 for England and Wales, 54 for the great Towns and 43 for towns with a population between 25,000 and 50,000.

As noted in previous reports, the percentage of Still-births to Live-births varies considerably in the several Districts :

Rural : Settle, 3·0 ; Skipton Rural, 4·2 ; Sedbergh, 6·6.

Urban : Silsden, 1·2 ; Skipton Urban, 3·2.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During 1945 no mother lost her life from Puerperal Sepsis or from "other puerperal causes," i.e., the total Maternal Death-rate in Craven was ·00 per 1,000 live and still births, compared with 9·9 for England and Wales, 12·6 for the large towns and 8·8 for the smaller towns.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death in Craven Districts, 1945.				Silsden	Skipton U.	Sed-bergh.	Settle.	Skipton R.
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
2	Measles	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
6	Influenza	...	...	—	1	—	3	3
7	Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	1	—	—	—
8	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—	1	2
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	6	6	1	4	7
10	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	—	4	—	1	3
11	Syphilis	...	...	1	—	—	—	2
12	General Paralysis of insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
13	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	11	28	9	19	40
14	Diabetes	...	...	1	2	—	1	3
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	12	20	6	19	26
16	Heart disease	...	...	34	52	12	59	93
17	Aneurysm	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
18	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	1	7	3	16	16
19	Bronchitis	...	...	2	5	1	4	13
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	1	3	—	2	7
21	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	2	1	—	—	1
22	Peptic ulcer	...	...	1	1	2	1	2
23	Diarrhoea, etc., under 2 years	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
24	Appendicitis	...	...	—	1	—	—	—
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
26	Other diseases of liver	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	3	—	—	4	7
28	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	1	6	—	4	11
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
30	Other puerperal causes	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
31	Premature birth	...	...	3	—	1	—	3
32	Congenital debility, &c.	...	...	1	—	1	5	8
33	Suicide	...	...	—	1	—	3	2
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	—	—	—	5	1
35	Other deaths from violence	...	...	1	5	—	9	8
36	All other causes	...	...	3	14	6	19	44
Total				84	158	42	179	302

B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

1.—PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health : Wm. Scatterty, M.A., M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors : Sedbergh—W. Batty, M.S.I.A.

Settle—F. Foxcroft and N. Firth.

Skipton Rural—T. F. Ayrton and R. R. Overend.

Silsden—J. R. Wade (J. W. Thornton, M.S.I.A., on active service).

Skipton—F. Holmes, M.S.I.A.

In Settle the Departments of Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Surveyor were again separated, and Mr. H. L. Jagger appointed Engineer and Surveyor.

Other Officers : Services such as Tuberculosis, V.D., Maternity and Child Welfare, Veterinary Surgeons, Midwives, School Nurses, Health Visitors, etc., are controlled and staffed by the West Riding County Council.

2.—HOSPITALS.

(a) GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL
(a) INFECTIOUS DISEASES } See former Reports.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS.

Sanatoria are provided by the West Riding County Council, principally at Middleton, Ilkley, for men, and Scotton Bank, Knaresborough, for women and children.

(d) WELFARE CENTRES, MATERNITY HOMES, &c.

ANTI-NATAL CLINICS.—Established at Grassington, Glusburn, Skipton and Settle, also a clinic for Toddlers at Skipton. Attended by Medical Officer paid by the County Council.

Additional anti-natal services provided by the County include home visiting by Health Visitors, Home Helps, supervision by Doctor or Midwife, and expert consultations at certain anti-natal clinics.

MATERNITY HOMES.—The County Council arrange for the admission of in-lying cases to St. John's Hospital, Keighley, and the District Hospital, Skipton. Langroyd Hall, near Colne, is also open for cases in the Craven area. The need for more maternity beds is urgent, especially in Settle area.

Provision for the treatment of Puerperal Pyrexia is similarly made at Keighley, Bingley and Shipley Joint Hospital, and at Skipton Infectious Diseases Hospital.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.—Under the auspices of the County Council, Centres are established in places—Silsden, Glusburn, Grassington, Skipton, Settle, Ingleton. Voluntary Centres are also open in Glusburn, Bentham, etc.

C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

The following tabulated statements indicate the position of the Sanitary Services in the several districts :

(1) WATER SUPPLIES.

Source of Supply.	Distribution.	Houses Supplied.	Quality : Quantity.
SEDBERGH : Moorland Springs and Streams	By R.D.C. in Sedbergh, Dent, Gawthrop and Leagate.	821. Not on public supply, 400.	Chlorination of Sedbergh Supply. Satisfactory bacteriological report.
SETTLE : Moorland Springs for 12 townships.	R.D.C. in 12 townships. Pte, Co's. in 2 townships	—	Doubtful in Helwith Bridge and Bentham. Restricted in West-house. and Hellifield.
SKIPTON RURAL : Moorland Springs and streams	R.D.C. in 16 townships. Pte, Co's. in 20 townships. Bradford and Settle Corp. in 4 townships.	2,680. Not on public supply, 5,790.	Unsatisfactory bacteriological reports from Kildwick and Grassington.
SILSDEN : Bradford Corporation.	U.D.C.	1,644 and Hostel.	Chlorinated.
SKIPTON URBAN : Moorland Springs.	U.D.C.	All except farms.	Chlorinated.

The two Urban Districts, Silsden and Skipton, have filtered chlorinated water laid on to all houses, excepting outlying farms and cottages. The Rural Districts, however, are differently circumstanced, and although your Engineers and Inspectors have made very thorough surveys during the past year, individual problems are far from solved.

As you are aware, the Ministry of Health has classified waters according to the number of *Bacillus Coli* present, thus :

Class I	...	fewer than 1	per 1 cc.
„ II	...	1 to 2	1 „
„ III	...	2 to 10	1 „
„ IV	...	10 plus	1 „

Class III being considered doubtful and Class IV unsatisfactory. Now there are in North Craven many square miles of gathering ground without a square inch of cultivated land, without a single inhabited house and over 1,000 feet higher than the nearest dwelling. Human pollution is therefore most unlikely, and pollution by domestic animals (except perhaps by sheep) not great. The rain from Heaven falling on the top of Ingleboro', Penyghent or Whernside, 2,000 feet above sea-level, and issuing from springs on the hillside 1,000 feet above the nearest human habitation, is condemned as unsatisfactory according to Ministry standards.

The resulting problem is a difficult one, although, fortunately, only in a few instances have consumers seen grounds for complaint. For many outlying houses the "unsatisfactory" water is all there is available ; the consumer cannot afford to instal chlorination plant, and your officials cannot remove the source of pollution, i.e., the wild fowl producing the *B. Coli*, so, consequently, the poor householder is left with alternatives as unsatisfactory as his water supply.

During the past year your officials have made surveys and taken many samples for bacteriological analyses in all parts of Craven, with the rather striking result that in the populous industrial low-lying areas, Silsden and Skipton Urban, the analyses meet requirements, whereas in the upland areas with moorland gathering ground the bacterial count is mostly "unsatisfactory." For instance, 110 inspections in Skipton Rural were made by the Health Officials, 27 samples taken for bacterial examination, 15 being satisfactory and 12 unsatisfactory.

The Inspector at Settle reports the Settle and Giggleswick supply continues to be chlorinated, but during the summer, owing to leakages and diminished yield from springs, the supply had to be curtailed at night. At Langcliffe gauging of another spring on Daw Haw was continued to augment the present supply. Observations were continued of springs at Westhouse, in Tow Scar Lane, at Keld Head and the spring on Gragareth, at the head of Masongill watercut.

The new larger main from Otterburn Moor to the service reservoir on Hellfield Moor was completed and the shortage there remedied."

Further, in Skipton Rural, Mr. Yeadon, Engineer, reports that a complete survey of the district showed : Parishes, 47 ; Area, 147,210 acres ; Houses 7,620 ; Parishes with piped water supply, 47.

Houses with supplies laid on, including piped supplies from wells	...	7,401
Houses with stand pipes available	... ..	47
Houses with no piped supply available	... ..	173
Supplies controlled by R.D.C.	... ..	16
„ „ Statutory Undertakings	... ..	2
„ „ Private Companies	... ..	9
„ „ Private Owners	... ..	20

Schemes are being prepared to provide a piped supply to parts where there are Schools or upwards of 20 houses grouped together.

In answer to the question, "Are additional supplies necessary ?" the reply was : Some require to be improved ; others extended, e.g., groups of fewer than 20 houses.

Mr. Batty, Sedbergh, reports, for some time complaints have been received of shortage of supply in the Frostrow area of the Sedbergh supply, and after consultation with the Ministry's Regional Inspector it was decided to link up the Frostrow and Purfold branches and, if necessary, provide a balancing tank. Arrangements are in hand to carry this out as soon as possible. Further, it is hoped to commence the Birks branch main early in the New year."

2.—DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Sewer Extensions.	Extensions necessary.	Houses Not Connected.	Disposal.
			Extensions : Inadequacy.
SEDBERGH : Nil.	Millthorp and Gawthrop.	500 (outlying premises).	Extensions stopped by War.
SETTLE : Nil.	Horton-in-Ribblesdale & Westhouse and new schemes for other townships.	—	River Greta at Ingleton polluted by broken sewer:
SKIPTON RURAL : Nil.	Hebden, Lothersdale, Burnsall, Starbotten and Draughton.	Connecting held up at Linton & Bradley.	
SILSDEN : New Housing Site.	Nil.	Only outlying farm-houses.	None.
SKIPTON URBAN : Plans in preparation.	Nil.	4 below lever of sewer.	None.

3.—CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

	W.C.	W.W.C.	Privies.		Tubs.	Closets in District.	Percentage on Water-carriage.
			Open.	Closed.			
SEDBERGH ...	993	—	64	407	76	15:40	64.5
SETTLE ...	2050	63	1012		35	—	—
SKIPTON RURAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SILSDEN ...	1308	447	6	68	13	1841	95
SKIPTON URBAN ...	3890	8	—	—	4	3890	100

SCAVENGING : REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

			Public ?	Tipping.	Controlled ?	Cost.
SEDBERGH ...	...	...	By Private Contract, Sedbergh and Dent	Yes.	Yes.	£275
SETTLE ...	...	...	By R.D.C. in 6 townships. Contract in 1 township.	Yes.	No.	—
SKIPTON RURAL ...	...	...	By R.D.C. in 15 parishes. Contract in 13 parishes.	Yes.	Yes. Part.	£3,928
SILSDEN ...	...	...	By U.D.C.	Yes.	Yes.	£752
SKIPTON URBAN ...	...	...	By U.D.C.	Yes.	Yes.	£2,778

In Skipton Rural, the scavenging of the parishes of Draughton and Elslack have now been undertaken. The work is being done by Council men and by direct labour, and from November West Marton was taken over and done by Contract.

A new additional Motor Scavenging Waggon has been placed on order by the Council.

In Settle Rural, the Council decided to undertake the scavenging at Hellifield and a contract for the work was entered into. The Council also placed orders for 2 new "Karrier" Bantam motor vehicles for the scavenging of as much of the remainder of the District as possible, but at the end of the year the vehicles had not been delivered, though part of Clapham village was scavenged with the Council's existing vehicle.

SALVAGE.

Sedbergh : Collection of paper reorganised.

Settle : 126 tons collected and disposed of, value £808.

Skipton Urban : 131 tons paper and 8 tons metals, bones, etc. ; value £324.

A comparison of the financial results of collection in the several districts would be misleading ; in fact, a wider collection in the Rural areas would not be covered by the salvage receipts.

4.—PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BY-LAWS.

SANITARY REVIEW.

	Inspections.	Nuisances Found.	Nuisances Abated.	Served.	Notices Complied with.
Sedbergh	103	19	19	18	17
Settle	117	66	66	98	98
Skipton Rural ...	175	145	115	103	82
Silsden	145	67	67	67	67
Skipton Urban...	353	144	143	47	47

The supervision of Bakehouses, Factories, Workshops, etc., has been maintained, although inspections have been curtailed by pressure of other duties. Still, numerous visits are recorded as having been made to the Bakehouses and Offensive Trades in the area: for instance, in Skipton Rural 125 visits to Factories and Workshops, 42 to Butchers' Shops, 116 to Workshops re linewashing, etc., were made, and practically all were found to be carrying on their respective processes satisfactorily.

D.—HOUSING.

The provision of new houses in certain districts is practically at a standstill. The demand, however, is definitely increasing. House inspection work, too, is restricted owing to the difficulty of getting labour and material. Still, 20 house inspections were reported in Settle, 196 in Skipton Rural, and 74 in Skipton Urban.

Mr. Batty, Sedbergh, says: "The Council is negotiating the purchase of two sites from the Ministry of Aircraft Production—one with 50 temporary bungalows, the other with 36. The existence of these 86 dwellings, now largely evacuated by the workers for whom they were built, would be very helpful in providing accommodation for Ex-Servicemen and newly-married couples. If they can be acquired they will probably be replaced by permanent structures."

Mr. Ayrton, Skipton Rural, apologetically remarks: "During the year we have made no routine inspections on account of the difficulty of getting material and the scarcity of workman but we have from time to time taken action where houses were not in a reasonable habitable condition and also through complaints received. Number of inspections and re-inspections totals 196."

Mr. Holmes, Skipton again emphasises: "The need for more houses for demobilised married service men whose wives live with there parents the increasing adult population with consequent unsatisfactory accommodation for separation of sexes and the slow replacement of unfit houses whose occupation is allowed only because of the shortage."

E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

	Cow-keepers.	Cow-sheds.	No. of Cows.	Sheds Inspected.	Wholesalers Registered.	Retailers.
Sedbergh ...	270	296	2,800	96	252	18
Settle	629	960	7,500	210	386	76
Silsden	75	110	865	70	63	9
Skipton Rural ...	845	1,405	10,955	845	735	110
Skipton Urban ...	12	13	250	24	10	24

Supervision by your officials is maintained as formerly, with varying results. The proposed National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme should tend to ensure greater cleanliness and, therefore, better "keeping" quality of milk. At present insufficient cooling, dirty utensils and inadequate cleansing of hands and udders are probably more important factors in reducing the good keeping quality of milk than the structure and conditions of cowsheds. In accordance with the proposed Scheme, already all consignments of milk to dairies in Skipton are tested weekly.

LICENCES ISSUED.

	Sedbergh.	Settle.	Skipton R.	Silsden.	Skipton U.
Tuberculin Tested...	4	14	12	2	2
Accredited	—	48	138	16	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

	Settle.		Silsden.		Skipton Rural.		Skipton Urban.	
	Samples.	Satis- factory.	Samples.	Satis- factory.	Samples.	Satis- factory.	Samples.	Satis- factory.
Tuberculin Tested ...	15	15	5	4	13	13	4	4
Accredited ...	88	83	39	34	199	133	14	12

As further evidence of the care taken to ensure a pure milk supply it may be noted that in Skipton Rural of 10 samples of Pasteurised milk 5 were unsatisfactory, of 31 samples of ordinary milk 21 were unsatisfactory, of 32 samples examined for sediment 15 were unsatisfactory, of 11 samples of School milk 4 were unsatisfactory.

Of 42 samples taken in Skipton Urban and examined for cleanliness and keeping quality, 2 were unsatisfactory.

(b) MEAT AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Slaughterhouses in Craven are controlled by the Ministry of Food and centred in Settle and Skipton Urban. Skipton Urban is the centre for slaughtering for Skipton Rural, Earby and Barnoldswick, and Keighley for Silsden. The following figures show the immense amount of work and responsibility placed upon your Inspectors, but the number of animals killed and condemned belonging to the Combined Districts is only approximate.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Condemned as Unfit.
Settle	1008	68	3,820	38	14 tons 2 cwt.
Skipton Urban ...	3,103	1,519	11,076	167	54 tons 16 cwt.

Skipton Urban reports further that 183 jars of jam, 218 tons of milk, 223 tins of fish and 151 tins of canned meat were found unfit for human consumption. Similarly in Skipton Rural, 28 cwt. of food products, including 600 lbs. of marmalade, 560 lbs. custard pudding mixture, 224 lbs. Semolina, 210 fish rolls, 141 lbs. butter, 168 lbs. sugar, 95 tins condensed milk, etc., were condemned.

700 tons of frozen meat passed through the Skipton Centre during the year.

(e) RATS AND MICE INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Under directions of the Ministry of Food local authorities were required to carry out duties for the elimination of rats and mice, and the North-East Division was grouped into districts. Group 10 comprised Sedbergh, Settle, Bowland, Skipton Urban and Rural, Barnoldswick and Earby.

Regular meetings were held by an officer from the Ministry of Food. Trapping, poison-baiting and, generally, the methods to be employed for eliminating rodents were discussed.

In Skipton Urban, very few complaints of infestation were received, although householders were encouraged to report any infestation, and posters were displayed over the town. The Town sewers were treated with negative results, but seven complaints were received, 170 baits laid, with 70 satisfactory results.

In Settle Rural the Refuse Tips and Sewage Disposal Works are treated under contract with the West Riding Committee.

In Skipton Rural 75 inspections were made.

F.—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(a) NON-NOTIFIABLE OR TEMPORARILY NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Comparative immunity was experienced in most districts from such complaints as Influenza and Chickenpox, while on the other hand such temporary notifiable diseases as Measles and Whooping Cough were unusually prevalent. Thus there were brought to the notice of the Health Department the following cases :

Silsden	115	Measles	6	Whooping Cough
Skipton Urban ...	223	„	15	„
Sedbergh	14	„	1	„
Settle	182	„	9	„
Skipton Rural ...	195	„	31	„

That the type of disease was not virulent is shown by the fact that of 729 cases of Measles and 62 cases of Whooping Cough none were registered as fatal.

(b) NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(1) INCIDENCE.

The following notifiable diseases (positive and suspected) were brought to the notice of the several Authorities during 1945 :

District.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Typhoid and Para- typhoid.	Pneu- monia.	Puer- peral Pyrexia.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever and Polio En- cephalitis.	Erys- pelas	Oph- thalmia.	Total.
URBAN :									
Silsden ...	11	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	14
Skipton ...	20	2	—	2	—	—	5	—	29
RURAL :									
Sedbergh ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	4
Settle ...	31	—	—	6	1	1	—	—	39
Skipton ...	44	6	—	—	4	1	5	—	60
Total ...	106	10	—	10	5	2	13	—	146

This total of 146 compares very favourably with 123 and 327 cases reported in the two previous years. Diphtheria and Pneumonia showed the largest drop in notified cases.

Considerable attention has been given in recent years to the protection of children by anti-Diphtheritic immunisation. How successful the result has been can easily be seen from the record of the past five years :

	Population Under 15	Immunised.	Notified	Deaths
Silsden ...	988	597	2	0
Skipton Urban ...	2500	1150	13	0
Skipton Rural ...	4800	1459	52	0
Settle ...	3060	1131	—	0
Sedbergh ...	1060	401	—	0
	12408	4738	67	0

Among the 7,670 children not protected by previous immunisation there were 67 notified cases, with 3 deaths, whereas among the remaining 4,738 immunised children there were no cases and no deaths.

(2) CONTROL.

The extent to which the several authorities availed themselves of their isolation hospital facilities is shown below (cases admitted for observation included) :

Hospital.	District.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Suspected Typhoid.	Cerebro Spinal.	Other	Total
Sedbergh ...	Sedbergh	—	—	1	—	1	2
Settle ...	Settle	31	—	—	1	1	33
Skipton Joint ...	Skipton U.	20	2	2	—	1	25
	Skipton R.	44	5	—	—	6	55
	Silsden	11	1	—	—	1	12

Sedbergh sent a suspected case of Typhoid Fever to Kendal Hospital for observation, and 2 patients from Skipton Urban were admitted for observation.

(3) ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

The seven Zymotic Diseases—Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Whooping Cough and Diarrhoea in children under two years—were registered as the causes of no deaths, compared with 2, 7, 3, 4 and 4 in the previous five years.

Zymotic Death-rate: ·0, compared with ·11, ·05, ·06 and ·06 in the previous four years.

TUBERCULOSIS.

(a) INCIDENCE.

Cases notified or ascertained during 1945 :

	Pul.		Non-Pul		Total.	
	M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.
SEDBERGH	2	2	1	—	3	2
SETTLE	17	2	4	1	21	3
SKIPTON RURAL ...	7	4	6	3	13	7
SILSDEN	3	3	—	1	3	4
SKIPTON URBAN ...	6	6	3	4	9	10
	35	17	14	9	49	26

While there has been an undoubted increase in the number of cases notified or otherwise ascertained, this unsatisfactory result cannot be wholly debited to local conditions. For instance, of 17 male cases notified, 12 came from the County Institution without any further information regarding previous place of residence.

Deaths registered during 1945 :

	Pul.		Non-Pul.		Total.		Death-rate.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
SEDBERGH	—	1	—	—	—	1	·26
SETTLE	3	1	1	—	4	1	·37
SKIPTON RURAL ...	5	2	1	2	6	4	·45
SILSDEN	4	2	—	—	4	2	1·17
SKIPTON URBAN ...	4	2	2	2	6	4	·76
	16	8	4	4	20	12	·56

(b) CONTROL.

In addition to the routine methods followed by District Inspectors and Nurses in advising patients and relatives of the danger of infection, the benefit of fresh air and free ventilation, etc., efforts are made to secure sanatorium treatment for early cases and hospital isolation for those whose home conditions are unsuitable for home life.

On the other hand, when notification of a case is received several days after receipt of the death certificate the efforts of your officials to prevent infection are reduced to a minimum.

(c) MORTALITY.

Deaths : Pulmonary—16 males, 8 females—24. Death-rate, ·42.

Non-pulmonary—4 males, 4 females—8. Death-rate, ·14.

Total death-rate from all forms of Tuberculosis ·56, compared with ·70, ·33, ·38, ·39 and ·45 in previous five years.

No action was taken under the P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade, nor under the P.H. Act, 1925, Art. 62, which empowers certain cases of Tuberculosis to be compulsorily removed to hospital.

CANCER DEATHS.

	Mouth, Gullet and Uterus		Stomach		Breast		Other Sites		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Sedbergh ...	0	1	—	1		1	2	4	9
Settle ...	2	1	3	1		—	9	3	19
Skipton R. ...	1	3	2	3	1	2	13	15	40
Silsden ...	1	0	1	1		2	2	4	11
Skipton U. ...	1	0	6	2		1	9	9	28
Total ...	5	5	12	8	1	6	35	35	107

Cancer Death-rate : 1·8.

EVACUATION SCHEME.

During the year the energies of the Billeting Officers were mainly engaged in arranging for the evacuation of mothers and children who had houses to which they could return. A general idea of the work may be seen from the report of Mr. Ayrton, Chief Billeting Officer, Skipton Rural :

“During June, by request of the Ministry, 19 mothers and 78 children were evacuated to London. A number of houses were derequisitioned and compensation claims dealt with, but at the end of the year there were still nine requisitioned houses occupied by nine mothers and 46 children, plus six husbands who, without asking the Council’s permission, had returned to live with their wives and families.

“These families have no houses to go to, their houses having been destroyed or occupied by over people.

“In September, arrangements were made for re-requisitioning the Sick Bay at The Willows, Lothersdale, patients and staff being transferred to the Skin Diseases Hostel at the Shroggs, Steeton, where the Sick Bay children were placed on the ground floor and Skin Diseases on the first floor.

“The Bridge End Hostel, Eastby, is now being used for unaccompanied boys from different parts of the Riding.

“It was during February 1939 that a scheme had to be prepared to house mothers and children, mostly from Bradford, Leeds, Hull, Liverpool, London and Brighton. During 1944 as many as 1,634 evacuees were accommodated at one time in the District, the total families accommodated in requisitioned houses being 275 mothers, 677 children and 40 other adults. Throughout the whole evacuation period I am pleased to say it was never found necessary to billet anyone compulsorily.

“I should like to express my gratitude to the Evacuation Committee for its assistance and advice, and to mention further the great help received from the W.V.S., Local Billeting Officers and Local Parish Councillors set up to deal with evacuation. It would have been impossible for me to have carried out this work without the help of these people and the valuable assistance always received from the Office Staff.”

Praise must also be given foster-parents for the kind consideration shown the many hundreds of helpless evacuees placed in their care.

Economy restrictions prohibit the record of other activities such as treatment of V.D., A.R.P. duties, etc.

In conclusion, I acknowledge with gratitude my indebtedness to your Inspectors and Sanitary Staff for continued courtesy, loyalty and co-operation.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WILL SCATTERTY, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Keighley.

June, 1946.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, Etc., IN 1945.

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	Craven Combined District.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
BIRTHS :				
Live	16·1	19·1	19·2	14·7
Still	0·46	0·58	0·53	0·5
DEATHS :				
All Causes	11·4	13·5	12·3	13·4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough	0·02	0·02	0·01	0·00
Diphtheria	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·00
Influenza	0·08	0·07	0·07	0·12
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	46	54	43	34
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5·6	7·8	4·5	0·00
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
NOTIFICATIONS :				
Typhoid Fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·00
Paratyphoid Fever	0·01	0·00	0·01	0·00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0·05	0·05	0·05	0·03
Scarlet Fever	1·89	2·02	2·03	1·84
Whooping Cough	1·64	1·65	1·47	1·08
Diphtheria	0·46	0·52	0·56	0·16
Erysipelas	0·25	0·28	0·24	0·22
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	—	0·00
Measles	11·67	10·89	11·19	12·77
Pneumonia	0·87	1·03	0·72	0·16
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).				
NOTIFICATIONS				
Puerperal Fever }	9·93	12·65	8·81	5·7
Puerperal Pyrexia }				

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HERALD, SKIPTON